

In the claims:

Claims 2 and 5, each line 1, after "1" add --or 19--.

Claims 7 and 10, each line 1, after "6" to add --or 20--.

Please amend claims 1, 6 and 13 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b) by deleting the bracketed material and inserting the underlined material as follows:

b1  
--1. (twice amended) A method for treating pathologies characterized by a deleterious accumulation of extracellular matrix in a tissue, comprising contacting [said] the tissue with a TGF- $\beta$  [specific] inhibitory agent which suppresses the accumulation of a TGF- $\beta$  induced component of the extracellular matrix [producing activity of TGF- $\beta$ ] in the tissue.--

b2  
--6. (twice amended) A method of inhibiting the accumulation of extracellular matrix in a tissue, comprising [suppressing the extracellular matrix producing activity of TGF- $\beta$  in the tissue by] contacting the tissue with an effective amount of a TGF- $\beta$  inhibitory [specific] agent which suppresses the accumulation of a TGF- $\beta$  induced component of said extracellular matrix in said tissue [to inhibit said accumulation].--

b3  
--13. (twice amended) A method of decreasing the production of a TGF- $\beta$  induced proteoglycan by a cell which produces [a] the proteoglycan, comprising contacting the cell with an agent which decreases [decreasing] the amount of TGF- $\beta$  or [inhibiting] inhibits the proteoglycan [production stimulating] inducing activity of TGF- $\beta$  in contact with the cell, and wherein the agent is not a general protein inhibitor [to which the cell exposed].--